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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

SERIAL NO: 09/269,607

ART UNIT: 1645

FILING DATE: 02/20/2003

EXAMINER: Navarro

INVENTOR: Ebringer

ATTY DOCKET: 78104.038

TITLE: Diagnosis of Spongiform Disease

**MAIL STOP: FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 5, 2004, 37 CFR §1.111**

In response to the Office Action dated April 5, 2004, the time period for response thereto being set to expire June 5, 2004, by virtue of the Petition for One-Month Extension of Time filed herewith, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Applicant's Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.